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Culture

Jenna Ortega's *Wednesday* Writing Comments Inspired Strike Picket Signs

"See you at the line, Jenna!"

BY ASHLEIGH CARTER
MAY 7, 2023

Jenna Ortega's previous comments about altering the *Wednesday* script have jokingly been used as part of the WGA writers' strike.

The actor made headlines —for better or worse — in March after saying in an interview on the *Armchair Expert* podcast that she would periodically start "changing lines" while working on Netflix's hit series, *Wednesday*. Ortega starred in the titular role.

Her comments stirred up some controversy at the time, and now some writers have used those comments as jokes for their picket signs. *House Party* writer Brandon Cohen held a sign that said, "Without writers, Jenna Ortega will have nothing to punch up!"

Twitter content

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Another person tweeted, "Rewriting is writing! See you at the line, Jenna!"

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While most people have perceived the picket signs as a joke — following the theme of other signs from this week — some of Ortega's fans have jumped to her defense on Twitter.

The actor's full comments came after the success of the Netflix show, which follows the teenage character from *The Addams Family* franchise.

"The script supervisor thought that I was like, going with something, and then I would have to sit down with the writers and they would be like, 'Wait, what happened to this scene?' And I would have to go through and explain why I couldn't do certain things," Ortega said at the time.

She continued: "I don't think I've ever had to put my foot down on a set in the way that I had to on Wednesday. Everything that she does, everything that I had to play, did not make sense for her character at all. Her being in a love triangle made no sense. There was a line about a dress that she has to wear for a school dance and she said, 'Oh my God, I love it. Ugh, I can't believe I said that, I literally hate myself.' And I had to go, 'No.'"

Despite Ortega's concern with the script at times, *Wednesday* was renewed for a second season on Netflix. Ortega is expected to be nominated for an Emmy for her role. With the ongoing writers' strike, it's unclear when production will begin on that show.

The writers' strike is entering its first full week of protesting after beginning on May 1. The last time a major strike took place in 2007, the protests went on for 100 days, costing the industry nearly $2 billion in lost revenue.

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